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A black bear wipes mud on his face to beat the heat and the blackflies in the early spring. / Submitted by Tammy Nash

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The beautiful Burnt River bisects the Dahl Forest property. / Rick Whitteker

Dahl Forest- A gift of beauty

RICK WHITTEKER

Special to *County Life*

Sometimes when you know the history of the trails and the property you are visiting, the hiking experience can become more meaningful. This is the case for the public trails at Dahl Forest.

Dahl Forest was mostly abandoned farmland when bought by William and Peggy Dahl in the 1950s. With passion for nature and forests, the Dahl's planted over 100,000 trees over a few years in the late 1950s. All forests that were not impacted by farming were left to grow and regenerate naturally.

Dahl Forest is approximately 500 acres and straddles 2.7 kilometres of the Burnt River in Haliburton County. Located about 5 kilometres south of Gelert, look for Geeza Road and follow it to the end where there is parking.

Hikers walk around a vehicle gate to find an information kiosk, a sign-in book, maps and a donation post. The trails are predominately flat, most are wide with some single-track trails called "shortcuts" which are not marked on the map. Top quality trail name signposts greet you at most intersections. There are also discrete signs reminding visitors to respect the Dahl's private homestead which lies on the east side of the property near the Burnt River.

One feature that struck me on my early June hike was the abundance to orchids. Lady's Slippers are a pink bubble of colour on a palate of green and brown. The flower has a slipper-like pouch, the bright colour and sweet scent effectively entices flying visitors, but the flower has no nectar. Entering through the flower's front slit, the insect (often bees) finds itself with only one exit which passes right by the stigma. The stigma provides a sticky spot for pollen to land on before entering the style eventually travelling to the ovary. If the insect bears any pollen from a previous flower visit, it will be deposited here before moving on.

Pink Lady's Slippers can take up to 10 years from seed germination to flowering and should not be picked. It's tempting to try to transplant them to your garden, but this rarely works. They have a symbiotic relationship with a specific fungus in the soil which supports its growth. Furthermore, unlike most seeds, this orchid

see page 4

County Life

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Dahl Forest committed to sharing the land

from page 2

growth. Furthermore, unlike most seeds, this orchid seed has no food inside, so it depends fungal mycelium to open the seed and nurture it through germination.

These beautiful flowers can be seen on the north arm of the Big Bend Loop and other shaded, coniferous dominated locations on the property.

Open habitats are found throughout the trail system. These areas are naturally regenerating with sun-loving plants like Trembling Aspen, Choke Cherry, and Bracken Fern. Other notable trailside plants include a healthy crop of blackberries. Looking like raspberries, the flowers and fruit of blackberries grow out the end of the branches in clumps. Both hikers and wildlife could be in for delicious bounty of fruit sometime soon!

Carpets of flowering Bunchberry and the showy Canadian Mayflower can also be found lining the spongy, needle-covered trails.

The Burnt River, which bisects this property is a free-flowing shallow river with a rocky bed that is ideal for a refreshing wade. River access is located at the end of River View Trail, a 94-meter spur trail off the North Road Trail at the north end of the property. The Burnt River twists and turns from this forest-clad vantage point, a great spot for a face wash and splash shower on a hot day.

As stated in the Dahl Forest video on the Land Trust's webpage, in keeping with the philosophy of William Dahl's Swedish heritage, his son Peter Dahl is committed to the idea that "the land belongs to the community and belongs to all the people…its to be shared, to be enjoyed by all." Selling the land was out of the question, so in 2009 the Dahl family donated 500 acres to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, an organization that is committed to honouring the land stewardship values followed by the Dahl's on their property.

The Land Trust is managing the property to increase biodiversity by allowing plantations to naturally diversify and keeping open areas cleared for sun-loving species to thrive. Evidence of success was revealed in June of 2017 when there was an event called a bioblitz. In a 24-hour period, 45 scientists, naturalists, and local nature enthusiasts catalogued over 700 species at Dahl Forest.

The idea of sharing the land for all to enjoy has resulted in a wonderful spot to hike, ski, or snowshoe; to learn about the historical land use, regeneration efforts and to enjoy the unique habitat diversity. This property is about one family's legacy and generosity, perhaps a life-lesson for all of us to reflect on while enjoying the trails of Dahl Forest.

Pink Lady's Slipper orchid beautifies the understory at Dahl Forest. / Thom Lambert

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Diving into summer with Deep Roots

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Staff

Summer is the time for adventure, and for Corina Mansfield of Deep Roots Adventure, she's eager to hit the ground running. "I would love to see more local residents, whether seasonal or year round, excited to find new things to explore in their own backyard and enjoying what there is on offer here!" she told County Life, as she prepares for her full season ahead.

Mansfield is the owner and operator of Deep Roots Adventure; a year-round outdoor experience company dedicated to getting people feeling excited, confident, and happy in nature. They offer guided trips and tours, watercraft and equipment rental, and training for folks to become more competent and capable in the great outdoors.

Located at the Kingscote Outpost, right by the Algonquin South Gate in Harcourt, Mansfield shared that she feels excited about the endless opportunities in that neck of the woods. "It is worth the drive from the west side of the county to spend a day, weekend, or week at the South Gate," she said. "There are some of the most lovely walk-in campsites, paddle-in campsites and backcountry campsites that Algonquin has to offer, and without the crowds or overuse suffered by other gates."

Photo submitted

One of Deep Roots' most popular adventures is the High Falls Paddle, Explore, and Dine. This five-hour experience will take paddlers around the York River and right up to High Falls, where a guide will set up a picnic meal from AM/PM Gourmet before heading home. Mansfield said that this adventure is great for all ages, and offers a unique and memorable opportunity to see what she believes is "one of the most beautiful areas of the county."

Mansfield runs Deep Roots with one goal in mind: to make people feel more comfortable in the outdoors. And that's her primary takeaway when it comes to her programming. "The biggest thing we want people to experience when they enjoy a product or service from Deep Roots Adventure is a feeling of really being taken care of," she said. "We want people to come to our workshops to learn awesome outdoor skills and to leave vibrating with a feeling of empowerment and a desire to learn more."

While the South Gate may seem like a bit of a trek from the downtown cores of the community, Mansfield encouraged locals and visitors alike to make the trip. She shared that herself and her neighbouring experience, accommodation, and dining providers consistently work in collaboration to make that neck of the woods a unique and accessible destination for all ages, interests, and abilities.

"They say you can't deliver all three points of the triangle – great service, high quality, and a good price, but I strive to do that," she said, "because I think people deserve to have the best."

The Kingscote Outpost also houses a collection of outdoor adventure products, clothing, and gear, so visitors can stock up on all their needs before they head out.

Deep Roots Adventure officially opened the Outpost for the season over the May Long Weekend, and will be open regularly until Thanksgiving. For information about rentals, tours, and additional experiences, visit www.deeprootsadventure.com or follow them on social media.

"We are excited for a great year at the South Gate," said Mansfield, "hope to see lots of familiar faces and to meet many new people!"

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Take precautions to avoid ticks

CHRIS DROST
County Life Staff

They are lurking on the forest floor, in the long grass or on the bushes you brush up against on your walk. Ticks, those nasty little creatures that latch on to you or your pet, continue to be a problem throughout the region.

"The number of ticks is about the same or maybe busier than previous years, especially in the last two weeks," says Jim Keating, public health inspector at the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge Health Unit.

The most common type is the black-legged tick. This is the one that can spread Lyme disease.

"The HKPR Health Unit does active surveillance for ticks. We do tick dragging in the spring and fall by dragging an area and sending it off for testing to see if the ticks collected are carrying the bacteria for Lyme disease.

"We see Lyme disease on occasion. The incidence has increased a bit in people over the past few years. We don't track pets. Lyme disease is a reportable disease," adds Keating.

A reportable disease means that physicians diagnosing someone with Lyme disease must report it to the health unit.

Ticks are members of the arachnid family and are unable to jump or fly. They survive by attaching themselves to a host, which could be a mammal or birds, and feed on their blood. Most are about three to five millimeters in length but can expand significantly after becoming engorged with blood.

While there are several species of ticks in Ontario, it is the black-legged tick, or deer tick, that carries the Borrelia burgdorferi bacterium that if transmitted to humans, may cause Lyme disease.

According to the HKPR health unit website, Lyme disease is a potentially serious disease. In 2020, there were 5.7 confirmed cases of Lyme disease per 100,000 people in Ontario and cases have been on the rise for several years. Approximately 70 per cent of all cases are reported from June through August.

Symptoms of Lyme disease can include a ring-like rash that expands outward from the bite and flu-like symptoms such as a fever, headache, muscle and joint pain and fatigue.

According to HKPR health unit, the more environmentally friendly recommended ways for avoiding black-legged ticks are to wear light-coloured clothing, making it easier to spot ticks, and wear closed shoes and socks and long sleeve shirt tucked into long pants. Also, tuck your pants into your socks. An insect repellant containing DEET or icaridin can be used on clothing or exposed skin but be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Be sure to check your entire body for ticks after being in the outdoors. This includes paying special attention to the groin area, belly button, armpits, head, and behind the ears. If you don't have someone to check your back for you, try using a mirror.

Having a shower immediately following a hike can help wash off any ticks that may be on you. You can also kill any ticks that might still be on your clothing by putting them in a dryer on high heat for at least 10 minutes.

It is important to remember that not every tick carries a disease. If you find one attached to your skin, do not panic. Do not rip it off or try to smother it with Vaseline, as this will not help. Instead, use fine-tipped tweezers or a tick pick and firmly grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible. Gently, pull away from the skin. The objective is to get the entire tick out in the first attempt. If not, you may have to get the remaining tick bits out with tweezers.

If you have pets, check their skin after time outdoors and follow the same process for removing them as for people.

When asked about whether a person should report a tick bite, Keating says it depends on how long it has been attached and whether it is engorged and a rash present. If this is the case, he suggests seeing a physician to get a diagnosis. If you do have Lyme disease, the physician will report it to the health unit.

"If you go to the doctor with a tick attached, the doctor many prescribe an antibiotic to prevent it becoming Lyme disease," explains Keating.

Top 10 animals that are not pet material

IF YOU think about it, there are a limited amount of pet species to choose from. There's dogs, cats, ferrets, pot-bellied pigs, tropical fish, snakes and a few more. But there are also a few interesting animal species that just didn't make the grade. Here are the top 10 and the reasons why they are not common pets.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. Bengal tigers: Litter boxes take up way too much space.
2. Porcupines: Kevlar vest required just to hug them.
3. Skunks: Over-the-top French accent and inappropriate behaviour.
4. Lions: Are great until the first time you forget your top hat, stool, and whip.
5. Bears: Turns out they don't just crap in the woods.
6. Crocodiles: Pool party-related lawsuits.
7. Giraffes: Too many tragedies as a result of them sticking their heads out the car window as you approached an underpass.
8. Gorillas: Mostly because of the Planet of the Apes movies.
9. Elephants: Poop and scoop can get to be a bit much.
10. Rhinos: Always terrifying when they charge over to greet you at the end of the day.

It's time

When trilliums fade and iris blooms
And lilies start to try
The spring has scudded by
It's time
When nests are bare and birdsong shifts
And greens blend into same
The summer whispers name
It's time
When rain is less and seeds begin
And lake is warm to swim
The Milky Way's a hymn
It's time
When ferns are high and evening's bright
And children start a fort
The storyteller's court
It's time
When bug-bites, sunburn make sleep hard
And bodies turn and toss
The count of sheep too cross
It's time
When school grows tired of focusing
And open windows speak
The breezes tickle cheek
It's time

Deborah J. Reed

Land Trust happenings

ROB HALUPKA

Special to County Life

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust has some exciting plans for 2023, beginning with our popular ''Discovery Days'' series of events. On July 22 at 8 p.m. in Dahl Forest, you can join bat enthusiasts and use special listening devices to hear bats flying overhead. next, at 10 a.m. on Aug. 19 at the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve, geologist John Etches will explain the geology of Barnum Creek.

In addition to the regular Discovery Days program, the Land Trust has launched a new initiative to protect a large swath of land we have named the Highlands Corridor. This initiative is a unique model of conservation involving land trust properties, unceded Crown land and private land stewardship. The Highlands Corridor encompasses over 100,000 hectares of unceded public and private land, rich with wetlands, forests, wildlife communities, species at risk, and deep carbon deposits. It extends across the southern Haliburton and northern Peterborough counties, within the territory of the Williams Treaties First Nations. The Highlands Corridor offers a nature-based solution to building climate change resilience, protecting lands and waters, and maintaining biodiversity.

We have assembled a high-profile advisory committee with seven prominent supporters including Peter Kendall, Executive Director of the Schad Foundation; Korey McKay, Climate Change Coordinator, County of Haliburton; Rick Smith, President, Canadian Climate Institute; Brent Devolin, former Mayor of Minden Hills; Barb Elliot, Professor at Fleming College; John Harbinson, HHLT Partner in Conservation and Jennifer Dailloux, Deputy Reeve of Algonquin Highlands Council. We will be running a series of events this summer to promote awareness of the Highlands Corridor and to raise money to fund stewardship of this land. The first event will kick off on July 20 at 7 p.m. in the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

If you are concerned about preserving natural habitats in Haliburton County, please consider joining us as a volunteer. We are looking for volunteers with a wide range of skills, including fundraising, communications, land management and board governance. Please fill in our volunteer form at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca/volunteer-application-form or send us an email at admin@haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

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The Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame is currently accepting nominations for our induction ceremony to be held June 15, 2024.

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Local forester honoured by Ontario Woodlot Association

NATE SMELLE
County Life Staff

Since it was fouded in 1992 the Ontario Woodlot Association has been supporting woodlot owners and promoting sustainable woodlot management practices throughout the province. Each year the association hosts an annual conference where it presents awards to individuals who have made an important impact on sustainable forest management, stewardship and outreach.

One of the most prestigious awards handed out at the ceremony is the Ken Armson Professional Award. Named in honour of the professional forester and officer of the Order of Canada who spent more than 50 years in forestry education, research, policy, and administration, the award is presented to an individual, group, or business that exemplifies outstanding professional contributions to the vision, mission, and values of the Ontario Woodlot Association.

At this year's ceremony the Ontario Woodlot Association named Ernie Demuth as the recipient of the Ken Armson Professional Award for 2023.

"It is such an honour to be recognized by the Ontario Woodlot Association for this award," Demuth told *County Life*. "Ken Armson is a very respected forester with many achievements throughout his career in Ontario. I have one of his books in my library!"

Celebrated for his long established career as a well-respected Registered Professional Forester in the Bancroft and Haliburton area, Demuth currently works as a forester for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry at the Peterborough Bancroft District. During his career, he created and managed his own forestry consulting business offering services on Crown and private land; worked for the local Sustainable Forest Licence holder on Crown land, Bancroft Minden Forest Company Inc.; served as president of the Bancroft Areas Forest Industry Association; volunteered his time to mentor aspiring foresters and tree markers; and, co-founded Forestry Day – a free one day program for middle school children on forest management.

Offering advice to anyone who might want to follow in his footsteps, Demuth said, "Like with most careers, networking and establishing a good support network of forestry professionals is important. A real entrepreneurial attitude can be a huge help."

For a good portion of his career, Demuth said he worked as a tree marker, often working full days on his own in a secluded section of a forest somewhere in Ontario. Having spent so much time in nature, he has learned to focused on how forests change over time and throughout the seasons; and through various forms of management. With this in mind as he navigates the challenges of today's forestry industry, Demuth said he has learned how important it is to be able to adapt.

"No forest is static, meaning it is always in a state of change," said Demuth. "How we practice forestry is also in a

Local forester Ernie Demuth has been awarded the Ken Armson Professional Award for his years of service and dedication to local forestry research and education. /Nate Smelle Staff

state of change as we learn more about forests and factors that can put them under threat, sometimes unknowingly. Today, invasive species have become a major component in how foresters manage. There are tools that foresters have or are developing in addressing invasives as well as an ever-changing climate."

From a forester's lense, Demuth said what they study is known as silviculture. In this field, he said they primarily focus on the control, establishment and management of forest stands. While Demuth describes silviculture as the foundation of their practice, he said it is only a part of sustainable forest management. When it comes to sustainable forestry, Demuth sees great value in the stewardhip practiced by Indigenous peoples since time immemorial.

"Learning from Indigenous communities to understand their values which include the protection of water, wildlife, plant communities as well as recreational values, to name a few are all taken into consideration when planning a sustainable harvest," explained Demuth. "Locally, especially in the Haliburton area, we have a great deal of hardwood deciduous forests which make up part of the Great Lake-St. Lawrence forest region. These are known as tolerant hardwood forests, and can be quite complex in how they grow and as a result how they are managed. Often these types of forests are naturally regenerating and do not require planting. It is not as simple as cutting down trees and replanting them but more a responsibility of extracting resources while maintaining a healthy ecosystem that will continue to grow into the next generations."

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Readings at Rails End
When: Saturdays 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 20 to June 17
Where: Rails End Gallery, 23 York Street Haliburton
Local readers read from passages from their favourite Author. Readings are held in conjunction with "Rewilding: Michelle Karch Ackerman and Tanya Zaryski" and the Authors come from The Library of Dresses gallery installation. Discussion follows each reading. June 17 Laurie Jones reads Beverly Cleary's Ramona the Pest. All welcome. 705-324-6800.

VOICE Peer Support Group
When: June 15 and 29, 7-9 pm
Where: Sirch Bistro and Bakery
VOICE is a gathering of people working on a better life for ourselves. We meet to share with each other and, in the future, to help improve community services.

Haliburton County Historical Society
When: June 15th, 1:30 pm
Where: Haliburton Museum, 66 Museum Road
The Haliburton County Historical Society invites you to attend its next meeting. Guest speaker Pauline Plooard of the Haliburton County Master Gardeners will give you tips on attracting more birds to your bird feeders. Please join us at the Haliburton Museum for an interesting visual presentation. Light refreshments will be served.

Father's Day Craft
When: June 17, 11 a.m. to noon
Where: Sirch Bistro and Bakery
Let's show Dad we care by making him something super neat! Please RSVP by June 15 for this by-donation kids craft by calling 705-457-1742 or emailing info@sirch.on.ca.

Repair Cafe
When: June 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion
Do you want to surprise dad this Father's Day by getting his favourite item fixed? You're in luck, SIRCH's Repair Café is back and this time it's at the Haliburton Legion (719 Mountain St) from 10-2. The full list of repairable items can be found at sirch.on.ca/repaircafe.

Art in the Garden Show & Sale Father's Day
When: June 17/18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Glass Eagle Studios Minden
What: Art, Live Music & Food
Contact: Tom Green at 705-286-3628

Haliburton Land Trust Annual General Meeting
When: Monday June 19 at 7 p.m.
How: via Zoom
What: Haliburton Highland Land Trust welcomes all to join us for our AGM, members in good standing have voting privileges. In order to receive the ZOOM link you must register in advance at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca.
Contact: pre-registration required at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca, admin@haliburtonlandtrust.ca, 705-457-3700

Plant Propagation: A How-To!
When: June 20, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Where: Sirch Bistro and Bakery
Gillian from the eclectic Snaffle and Mane plant store (one of our Maple Ave neighbours!) will show and teach us how to propagate a plant cutting to take home! Please bring $10 towards supplies from Snaffle and Mane--you get to take home a baby plant! Please RSVP to reserve a spot by calling 705-457-1742 or emailing info@sirch.on.ca.

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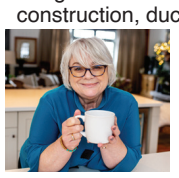

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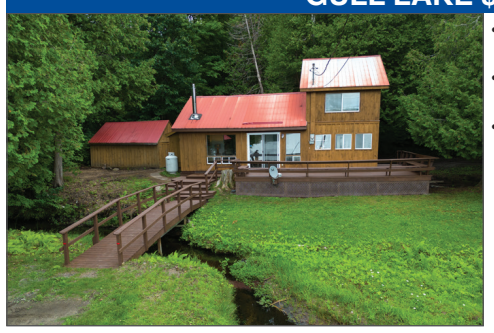
GULL LAKE $749,000



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- 16 x 18 garage and 8 x 10 shed and good privacy

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ted@tedvasey.ca

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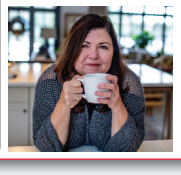

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Writing on the Senior Side

Remembering car rides with dad

GAIL STELTER
Special to *County Life*

A joyful jump into the back seat and off we went. Mom was going to work. She worked ful-time as a sals clerk. Most times that saddened me and made me acutely aware that our family was not F*ather Knows Best* or *Leave It to Beaver*. I yearned for those TV families or even a family like any one of the post-war baby boomer families on Smithfield Drive. Instead, I often found myself lonely and guarded for fear I will break my mother's rule: "Don't tell the neighbours our business," Even when I was too young to know what this business might be, I knew we were different. I felt different. The differences and the worry recessed on Saturdays; replaced by the expectations of that joyful jump; listening to my parent's pleasant conversation and the easy Saturday morning drive downtown to take Mom to work at Simpson's.

As I moved to the front seat I would ask, " Can we put on CHUM?"

The answer was always yes.

On May, 27,1957 at 6 a.m. CHUM 1050 played Elvis Presley's *All Shook Up*, launching Canada's first 24-hour rock and roll station. You may think that in 1959, at 10 years old, I was a little young for rock and roll but when you have a 16-year-old Elvis wanna-be brother with his guitar, white bucks, cuffed blue jeans and Elvish-styled hair, you very quickly became one of the first teeny boppers. His music became my music and on August 5, 1957, with the advent of Dave Clark and American Bandstand on TV every day after school until 4:30 p.m., I traded, albeit somewhat reluctantly, cartoons for rock and roll.

"Can we turn it up louder?

The answer was always yes. We both sang. We were loud.

Dad

James Joseph Kennedy, known as Jim, was five feet ten inches tall and overweight. I had seen the skinny Jim in pictures of his army days but I had never known him that way. He was brilliant with natural leadership skills. He commanded attention. I was always proud to tell anyone who would listen that my dad enlisted in the Canadian Army in 1939 as a private and came home from the war in 1945 as a Captain. With an easy caring, loving manner, and a happy outgoing disposition, he seldom, if ever, raised his voice. He was also often undependable and irresponsible with money as unopened letters and phone calls from collection agencies were juxtaposed with his love for his family. Jim went to work every day and to the Humber (Public) House almost every day after work. My mom related that before the war he liked to gamble but was not a drinker. Perhaps it was the 20,000,000 gallons of Canadian beer shipped to our troops overseas. Perhaps no one came home from war unwounded.

On Saturday mornings he was sober, intelligent, gregarious and full of joy to be with me. We may have sung our little ditties such as *Sweet Rosey O'Grady* or *A You're Adorable*. We may have laughed or had reflective, interesting conversations. He may have told me humorous, sometimes sad, stories of his life as the oldest of seven children. Childhood poverty was marked by his father's journey from the position of a university professor, perhaps at McGill, and as the coach of the University of Ottawa football team, to a drinker who couldn't provide for his family. As the oldest, Jim was sent to the parish priest's door to ask for food. He laughingly told me about the time he bought his sister a lightbulb for her bedroom as a Christmas present. Portraits of a card-playing, book-reading, church-going, Irish Catholic childhood were embedded with laughter and love. Although I didn't realize it then, I was his confidant and we were truly kindred spirits.

St. Lawrence Market

The market had been a part of Jim's life since 1923 when he was six years old and his family moved from Quyon, Quebec to Toronto. Established by a proclamation in 1803 to address the need for a public market, the first buildings were erected in 1814 and the first permanent structures were built in 1820. Over the next century, new additions and buildings evolved, due, in part to the Great Fire of Toronto. I discovered that in 2012 National Geographic named St. Lawrence Market the world's best food market.

Our first stop most Saturdays was the world›s best market. I hugged my dad's side or perhaps he held my hand as I took it all in. He would laugh as I shuffled my feet and orchestrated just a little kick in the sawdust on the wooden floor. My eyes opened wide at the hanging whole pigs and long ropes of sausage. Smelly, live fish in the barrel frightened me. I took a quick look and stepped back. The open market hall vibrated and echoed as vendors called out to the many customers and passers-by. Nostrils tingled as the smells changed and amalgamated. One aroma caused us to pause. I gazed, glued to the window. Delicious donuts! Bouncing in the bubbling oil. Hundreds of donuts. So many kinds. I made my choice and it was almost always the chocolate dipped.

We strolled the big hall from end to end and often went across the way to the next building: a cornucopia of fragrant fresh flowers and vegetables. I loved the flowers but we never bought any. Flowers were not a practical purchase. What did my dad purchase? Perhaps it was a sausage or tomatoes. There were only one or two such purchases as money was scarce and later stops would require further impracticable expenditures.

Queen's Park

Perhaps our next stop was a return visit to the Palace Pier where we watched the fishermen or did we walk through Cabbagetown or Chinatown? In autumn there was usually a stop at Queens' Park to collect chestnuts. Horsechestnut trees were first brought to Toronto in the 1800s by settlers seeking to recreate their homeland. In 1859, in preparation for the ceremonial opening of Queen's Park, 500 horsechestnut trees were planted along University Avenue. Horsechestnut trees can live more than 100 years. Some of the trees planted in 1859 may still be there today. In the fall, the outer husk of the chestnut splits into sections releasing one to two nut-like seeds. These were the prize possession of kids everywhere. When I was a little younger, perhaps six or seven my brother Jimmy would be with us. We ran through the park to find the biggest chestnut trees. We shuffled in the fallen leaves and log-rolled down the hills. It was a great day when we came home with a bag full of chestnuts. Jimmy would use a nail and a hammer to put a hole in the chestnuts and help me tie on shoelaces so that we could play conkers. In this game, each person took a turn striking the other's chestnut until one of them breaks. I usually only played with my brother and I usually lost, except when he let me win, which he often did. Counting and shining my yearly collection was my joy.

One chestnut hunting day at Queen's Park we came upon an open-mouthed man lying on the grass. Was he dead? My dad called out to him, "Are you all right?"

No answer. He called out again. Still no answer.

We went to find a nearby store and called the police. We were told to go back to the man, not to get too near, and wait there until a policeman arrived. A kick; a hard kick and the man jumped! The policeman said that he was a homeless person sleeping it off in the park. I had never seen a homeless person. It would have been my first time seeing a dead person! I was quite happy that he was alive.

ROM (Royal Ontario Museum)

Dinosaurs made me feel small. Dinosaurs made my dad look little. Looking at the dinosaurs together made me feel special. The ROM was not a regular occurrence but it never ceased to be thrilling. We explored and I absorbed. I was so excited about one of our ROM visits. We had a mission: my school project on the Native Peoples of Canada. (The Grade five term for Indigenous peoples.) The ROM Native Peoples exhibit brought books to life and was perfect. I was able to carefully consider and purchase cards (similar to postcards), representing the history of indigenous people from each area of Canada. Best project ever!

Doing the rounds

Doing the rounds meant stopping in at his friends for a drink. I was part of his team. It was usually only one or two stops where a beer or a rum and coke was offered and accepted. We were always eagerly welcomed and we never stayed long. I wonder if my mom knew we did the rounds. I most certainly never told her. We stopped at the home of Mad Dog Wilson and his wife (always Mr. And Mrs. Wilson to me). My dad was a master of nicknames. Dad meant no harm; only good fun with his nicknames. Those who were the recipients of these also accepted them in this spirit. I know this to be true as I also had unusual nicknames: Gates, Gatesy, Gatsey Gates, or Gades.

Last Stop

"There's the Beer Store. Can I come in?"

The answer was always yes.

Childhood was already indelibly marked by beer stores. A forever memory exists. My parents, especially my mom, were embarrassed when, as a toddler accompanying them on the streetcar to Long Branch/ New Toronto, I excitedly pointed out the window and yelled, "Look, there's the beer store!"

Unlike any other store of my childhood, the beer store required considerable rigamarole to make a simple purchase. The beer was hidden out of sight somewhere in the back. A little paper had to be filled out indicating what kind of beer Dad wanted to purchase. The slip of paper was handed to a clerk who yelled it into a microphone Within a few minutes, the case of beer appeared on the moving rollers and made its way for pick up. This would be our last or next-to-last stop. We may have also gone to the liquor store for a bottle of rum, occasionally supplanted or added to with gin in the summer.

Saturday mornings with my dad were put away in my happy days' brain. The afternoon began. We both had a routine and they did not intersect.

Happy Father's Day memories.

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Skies ablaze;

Haliburton County has been under a special air quality statement since June 4 as forest fires spread to surrounding areas.

Submitted by Susan Forrester, Davis Lake

Submitted by Erin Kernohan, Minden

Submitted by Brooke Reynolds, Head Lake

Submitted by Thom Lambert, Rail Trail

Submitted by Val Roylance, Lochlin

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email vivian@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

A curious chipmunk pops up to check out the summer weather. /Tammy Nash

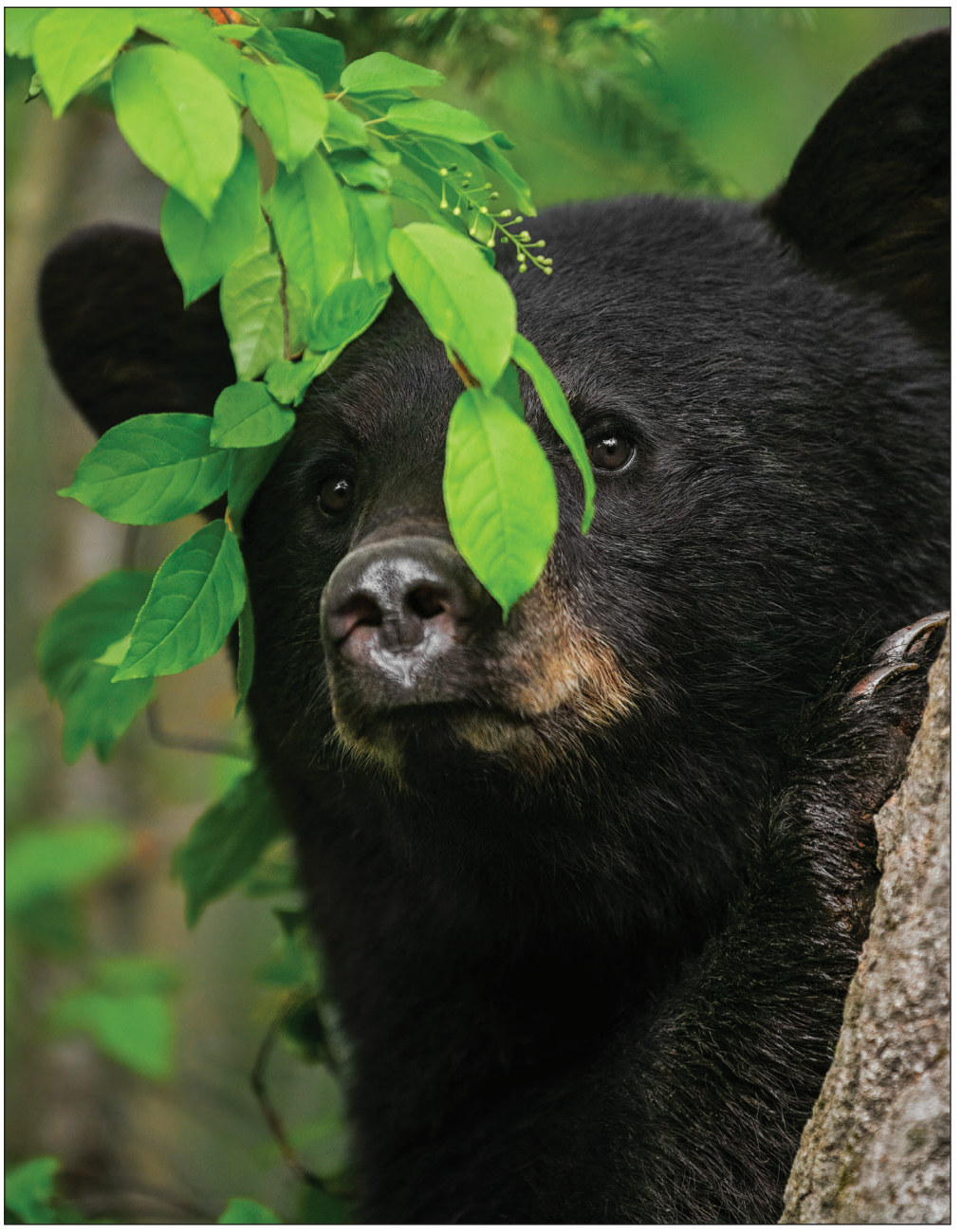
A blue heron catches a fresh fish near its nest. /Marj Andre

A young raccoon shows off his teeth while a spring trillium blooms. /Tammy Nash

A sure sign of spring! Hummingbirds have returned to feeders across the county, much to the delight of bird enthusiasts. /Jill Moulton

A young fox spies the camera lens and poses for a shot. /Tammy Nash

A mink dries off in the sun after taking a quick dip to cool down. /Marj Andre



A small black bear peeks behind the leaves, hoping it will hide itself from the mosquitos. /Tammy Nash

A loon protects its nest in the late spring sun. /Jill Moulton

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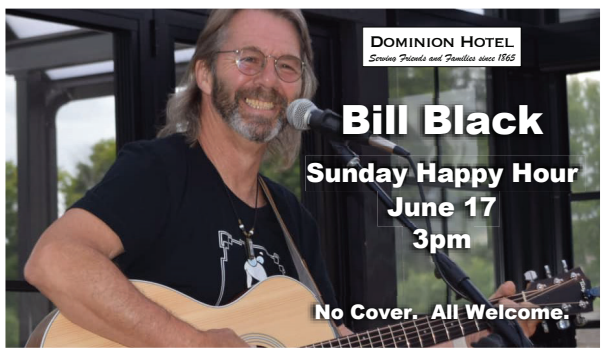

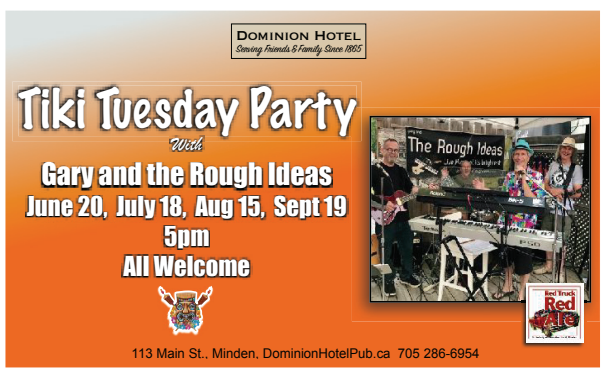

Tuesday Tiki Party 5-8
Open Mic 1st Friday of Month

Happy Hour Fri., Sat., Sunday
Monday Blues Concert Series

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Natural beauty
A swallowtail butterfly perches on some flowers. A sure sign that summer is on the way. /ADAM FRISK special to the Times.

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Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday, 1 p.m. Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Sept to June)
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall.
Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. $500 Jackpot
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available in the Clubroom.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at 705-457-2571, email rcll129@outlook.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Every other Friday Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Wilberforce

June 15: Open 2-6pm
June 16: Wing night and Jam session 5 to 8 p.m.
June 17: Meat draw 3 p.m.
June 18-20: Closed
June 21: Open 2 to 6 p.m. Darts 2 p.m. Upcoming events
June 23: Come celebrate our 50th Anniversary for Branch 624, 2 to 8 p.m. Opening ceremony 2 p.m. Pool, Poster contest display. Wings/nachos/cake. Music with Phil O'Reilly
June 24: Music with Half Tuned BBQ/ Popcorn Games/Giveaways/ Poster Judging with Jamie Schmale/ Laurie Scott/ Dave Burton
June 25: Pancake breakfast 9 to 11 a.m. T-shirts available $20

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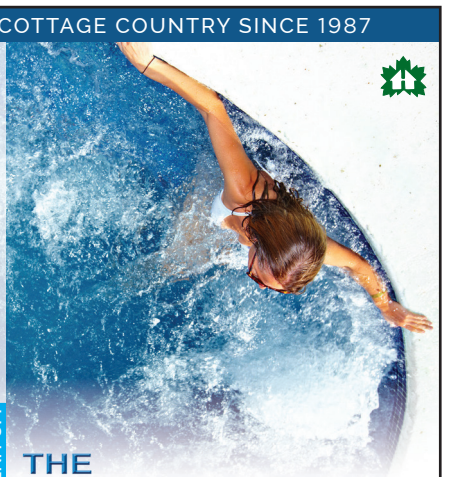

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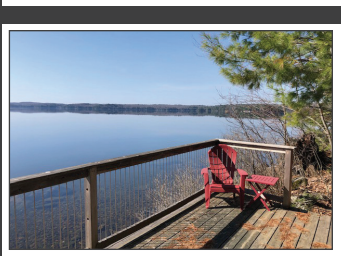

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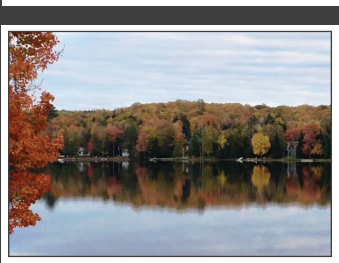

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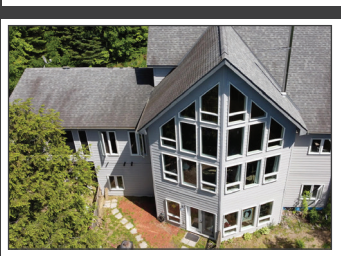

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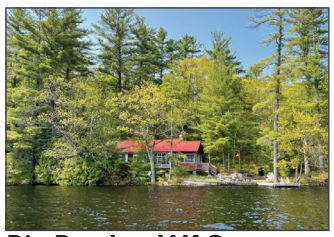

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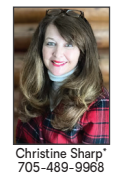

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Minden budget passes million dollar mark

Anson, Hindon and Minden townships have become a million dollar municipality following the completion of the 1982 budget Thursday evening by the township council. For the first time in the municipality's history township spending has topped the million dollar mark. The total allotment to be collected in 1982 for work within the three townships was set at $1,034,632.

Actually the municipality has been collecting more than a million dollars in taxes for a number of years, but portions of that amount have been turned over to the board of education and the county to meet their levies.

This year is no exception, as the county and education system will claim nearly 40% of the municipality's total levy of $1,920,342. Some $756,000 will be set aside for education while the county claims $131,224.

The municipal budget figure represents an increase of close to $63,000 over the amount spent in 1981. Mill rates throughout the municipality will increase an average of 9.2% to cover the tax boost. (Tax rates vary from area to area within the townships. A chart on page three outlines the mill rates for the year.)

The biggest single increase in this year's municipal budget is in the general government department which increases from $180,000 spent last year to $322,000 proposed for 1982. A large portion of that increase is contained in the $108,000 which has been set aside as provision for working capital. These funds will be used to offset capital expenditures made before the second installment of taxes are paid.

Members of the newly formed finance committee are hopeful the increased provision will boost bank interest income for the municipality while at the same time reduce the need for the township to borrow large amounts.

Other major increases include a $19,900 leap in Health Services spending, $10,856 of which will go towards salaries for ambulance personnel. All expenditures in Health Services however, receive 100 per cent subsidy from the Ministry of Health.

Social and Family services are also slated for a major increase in spending. An additional $10,227 will be spent this year, with welfare accounting for a $9,598 increase.

The municipality will spend $26,674 more on recreational and cultural services in 1982. $8,572 will go towards the cost of paving the parking lot and walkways at the Library/Cultural Centre and funds for parks development are also up $3,000 over last year's budget for a total of $7,000. Grants to various organizations are also up $3,000.

In response to a recommendation in the recent CAUSE study conducted in Minden, council has budgeted $10,000 towards a newly created Planning and Zoning Reserve Fund. Planning and zoning costs meanwhile have been increased to $10,000 from the 1981 budget total of $4,000. According to councillor Ed Pergolas who along with Lyle McKnight makes up the municipal finance committee the $10,000 could be used by the municipality towards the cost of an Official Plan for the municipality, or towards specific improvement projects.

Pergolas also said, following the release of the budget, that the new finance committee has made a significant reduction in the work load necessary in preparing the budget. According to Pergolas, he and

(more on page 3)

1982 budget....

comment on page 4

The old Minden library took a spin through town Friday on its way to a new home at the Library and Cultural Centre. The building will house a new museum at the site.

HCSA forced to user pay system for 1982-1983

The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association, facing rising maintenance costs and a complete loss of government grants, announced last week that it will adopt a users pay system for the 1982-83 season.

Government grants to the club have dropped steadily over the past few years, to the point where all government funding has been cut off for the upcoming season. Rising fuel costs, meanwhile, have caused a steady increase in the price of maintaining trails, and association directors now feel that the new system is necessary to keep the club alive.

According to Tom Prentice, the association's president, the move overturns the group's long held policy to remain public. "We have always sworn we would stay public," Prentice said in an interview last week, "but I can't see how we can do it financially now." Prentice also said that the club's 14 directors have discussed various means of raising funds for the club, but that directors did not have enough time to raise sufficient money through club activities.

Under the users pay system, all snowmobilers using the association's trails will be required to pay a users fee. Riders who are not club members will pay a temporary users fee. Club members will make regular patrols to ensure that all people using the trails have paid. Membership and temporary fees for this season have not yet been set by club directors.

Only 10% to pay

Association directors found last year that 90 per cent of snowmobilers using club trails were not paying membership fees. Prentice told The Times that riders using trails without a permit this season could possibly be charged.

"It's not the local people using trails without joining the club, it's more often riders from the city," Prentice said. "They ride trails to their hearts content and leave smiling; the trails end up in awful shape as a result," he added.

Directors are hoping that the new system may actually improve funding for the association. According to Prentice, the Grey-Bruce Snowmobile Association turned down a $13,000 government grant last year and raised $60,000 through its own means. Prentice says the Grey-Bruce club has found the increase in revenue has allowed better trail maintenance, which in turn has brought more snowmobilers to the area.

The Haliburton Association's budget last year was $52,000, $22,000 of which was provided by the provincial government for building a bridge at Gooderham. Other government grants dwindled to $2,800 last year, from $13,000 in 1980-81 season. That left the club with $27,200 in maintenance costs to pick up, an amount that was raised through a draw, two dances, membership fees and strong financial support from the business community. In addition to the Gooderham bridge, the association built two bridges using its own funds. Bridges were established at Black River and Beech River this past season.

Lutterworth municipality, meanwhile has proposed to the provincial government that half of all revenue from snowmobile licence fees be returned to clubs for trail maintenance. The idea has met with support from most of the municipalities in the county, and most have sent their endorsement of Lutterworth's proposal to Queen's Park.

Prentice is hoping the new system will be a success. "We hope we're making the right move. Everyone we've talked to agrees we are. We just hope now that it will work," he said.

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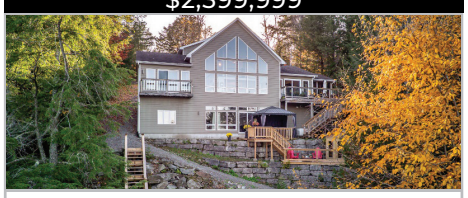

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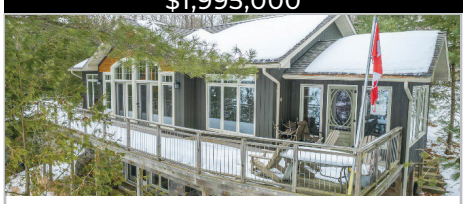

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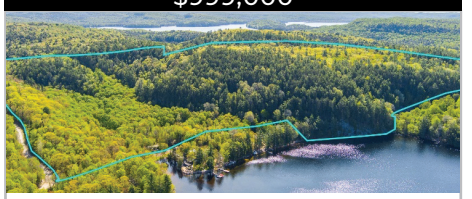

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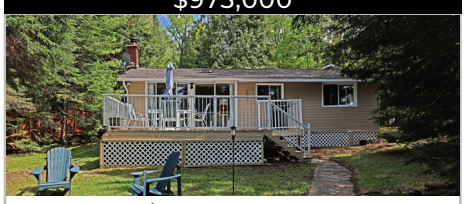

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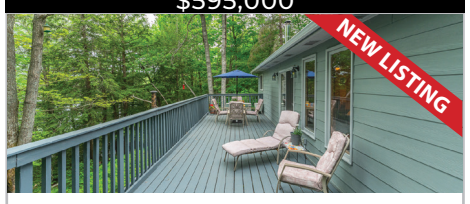

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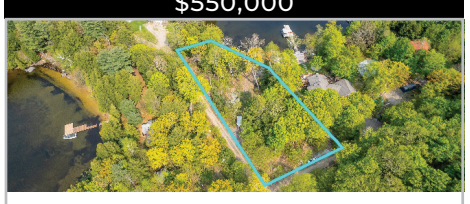
TWELVE MILE LAKE
$550,000

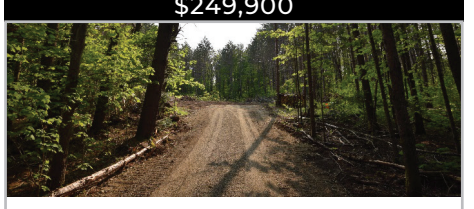


VACANT LAND · 164 FT. FRONTAGE · WATERFRONT
0.92 ACRES · MLS# 40422196

KAWAGAMA LAKE
$279,000

SOUTH EXPOSURE · WATER ACCESS ONLY
102 FT. FRONTAGE · 0.59 ACRES · MLS# 40414040

HARBURN ROAD
$249,900



CLEARED SITE · GREAT LOCATION · MUNICIPAL RD.
16.48 ACRES · MLS# 40425984

LAKEVIEW STREET
$159,900

PRIME LOCATION · 1.47 ACRES · UNDERGROUND HYDRO
MUNICIPAL YEAR-ROUND RD. · MLS# 40364799

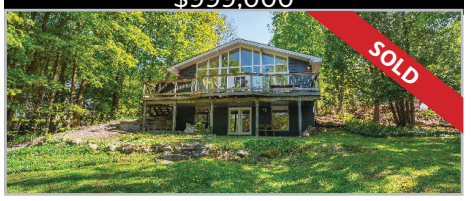
SOUTH ROAD
$99,000

GREAT LOCATION SKI HILL NEARBY · 2.48 ACRES
OFF-GRID · MLS# 40417372

PINE LAKE ROAD
$649,900

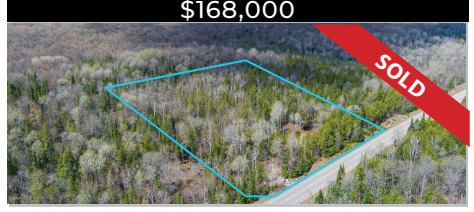
PINE LAKE
$999,500

BIRCH NARROWS ROAD
$999,000

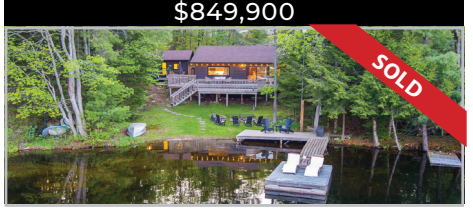


MAPLE LAKE
$895,000

TORY HILL
$168,000



GOODERHAM LAKE
$849,900



MOUNTAIN LAKE
$1,210,000

SOYERS LAKE
$2,695,000

Linda Baumgartner - Broker of Record | Owner

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